38. **Secondary Education.**— The total number of recognised secondary schools rose from 76 to 79 and their strength from 17,056 to 18,840. Of these schools, 66 were for boys and 13 for girls. There was a gradual increase in the strength of the higher grade classes of secondary schools for girls. The staffing of the secondary schools wholly with graduates was found to be unnecessary, and accordingly undergraduate teachers were substituted in the first three classes of those schools. Government are glad to note that this arrangement has conduced to both efficiency and economy. The report of the Committee appointed for considering the institution of a Provident Fund for the benefit of teachers in private recognised schools was received and published for information and remarks. The Director, who was asked to confer with the managers of private schools on the subject, has submitted his proposals. The scheme is under the consideration of the Government.

39. **Elementary Education.**—The number of elementary schools rose from 1,657 to 1,917 and their strength from 2,06,303 to 2,43,604, the percentage of increase under the latter head during 1090 being 18·1, against 9·5 in 1089. The rise in strength was noticeable in all the classes, and more particularly in Class I, in which the percentage of increase was 17·7. The course of training for the Lower Grade Teachers' Certificate was reduced from two years to one year, and arrangements were made for the admission of the maximum number of students in the training schools. The old Vernacular Higher Examination was revived in a modified form, as a departmental test for teachers employed in recognised schools. A special departmental examination of the same standard as the Sastri Test of the Sanskrit College was held for selecting qualified hands for appointment as Sanskrit munshis in higher grade elementary schools. To relieve the congestion in the lower classes of higher grade elementary schools, 111 new schools, under the designation of "Relief Schools", were opened during the year. The Government note with pleasure the warm interest that the people take in the progress of education and the readiness with which they co-operate with the department in the matter of providing the necessary sites and buildings for schools. Additional facilities were afforded for Tamil instruction in Tovala, Agastisvaram and Shencottah, where Tamil is the spoken language.

40. **Special Education.**—The total number of lower grade training schools in the State was 13, of which 10 were departmental. Their total strength rose from 223 to 335. The number of recognised technical schools rose from 15 to 16 and their strength from 670 to 876. Revised rules for the working of the School of Arts, Trivandrum, were sanctioned. The strength of the school for the Malayala Brahmans at Kulakada rose from 64 to 67. The boys of the Reformatory were taught printing and drawing. Three of the inmates of this institution were sent up for the Madras Government Technical Examination in drawing in the intermediate grade and eight in the elementary grade.

41. **Technical Scholarships.**—Government have sanctioned the institution of scholarships for the study of industrial and technical subjects in foreign countries. It is proposed to ear-mark an allotment of Rs. 15,000 per annum for a period of five years from 1091 for this purpose. The object of this scheme is to improve the industries and develop the resources of the State. The scholarships are intended to be in the nature of loans, a moiety of which the holders will be called upon to refund in moderate instalments after their return. The details of the scheme are now under the consideration of the Government.

42. **Grants-in-aid.**—The Government are devoting special attention to the encouragement of private agencies in the field of education. Grants were given to a large number of private schools during 1090. The date for the receipt of applications for grant-in-aid was changed from the 1st February to the 1st June to enable managers to secure grants from the date of the opening of their schools. The number of private aided schools rose from 863 to 870, the annual rate of grant per institution rising from Rs. 190 to Rs. 218. The Government recognise the desirability of leaving secondary education in a very large measure to voluntary effort and will afford every encouragement to private agencies in the direction of opening more secondary schools.

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